

Listing of Claims

1. (withdrawn): A method characterized by the step of:
 - a) generating a display of privilege state data in a three-dimensional view.
2. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the privilege state data include graphical symbols indicating at least "on" and "off" states.
3. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the privilege state data includes graphical symbols indicating "on", "inherited on", "public on", "off", "not set", and "disabled" states.
4. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the display includes privilege labels, object labels, and user labels generated based on privilege data, object data, and user data, respectively, the privilege labels, object labels, and user labels arranged along respective axes of the three-dimensional view.
5. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 4 wherein the privilege state data are displayed in a plurality of cells arranged in association with respective privilege labels, object labels, and user labels.
6. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the cells are displayed in association with privilege labels, object labels, and user labels, the privilege labels identifying at least one privilege, the object labels identifying at least one object associated with the privilege, and the user labels identifying at least one user or group of users using the object in the network system.
7. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the privilege labels, the object labels, and the user labels are arranged along respective transverse axes in the three-dimension view.

8. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the privilege labels identifies data access, data view, and data flow privileges to access or transfer data pertaining to the object within or without the network system.

9. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the privilege labels identifies data access privileges.

10. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 9 wherein the data access privileges include the capabilities to read, write, create, and delete data for an object stored in a database accessible by the network system.

11. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the object labels identifies data for at least one object stored in a database accessible by the network system.

12. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 6 wherein the privilege labels identifies view privileges including a privilege to create a view of privilege state data for objects.

13. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the user labels identifies at least one user group.

14. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the user labels identifies at least one user.

15. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the privilege state data indicates privilege states of at least one user or user group with respect to objects accessible in a network system.

16. (withdrawn): A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the privilege state data indicates privilege states of at least one user or user group with respect to data objects stored in a data storage unit.

17 (amended): A method comprising the steps of:

a) on a user interface of a terminal device generating a display of privilege state data in an array of cells in a three-dimensional view on a terminal device, the privilege state data of the cells displayed in correspondence with privilege labels, object labels, and user labels arranged along respective transverse axes of the three-dimensional view;

b) with the user interface of the terminal device, ^{user}inputting privilege state data into at least one cell of the array using at least one privilege label, object label, and user label;

c) determining the privilege data, object data, and user data corresponding to the cell in which the privilege state data is input in the step (b);

d) storing the privilege state data in a memory in correspondence with respective privilege data, object data, and user data determined in step (c) for the cell in which the privilege state data was input in the step (b); and

e) updating the display to include a privilege state symbol corresponding to the privilege state data input by the user in the step (b), based on the privilege state data stored in the memory in the step (d).

18 (cancelled)

19 (original): A method as claimed in claim 17 wherein the privilege state data includes data for "on", "inherited on", "public on", "off", "not set", and "disabled" states.

20 (original): A method as claimed in claim 19 wherein the privilege state data toggles between the "on", "inherited on", "public on", "off", "not set", and "disabled" states with successive activations of an input device of the user interface.

21 (amended): A method as claimed in claim 18 further characterized by the steps of:

f) with the user interface of the terminal device, selecting at least one of the privilege labels, object labels, or user labels; and

g) modifying the display of the privilege state data by removing or adding cells to the three-dimensional view, based on the step (f).

5 ~~22~~¹ (amended): A method as claimed in claim ~~18~~¹⁷ wherein the user data identifies first and second user entities related by predetermined hierarchical relationship data and the privilege state data is input in the step (b) in at least one cell corresponding to first user entity, the method further characterized by the steps of:

f) determining whether the second user entity inherits privilege state data from the first user entity, based on the hierarchical relationship data; and

g) if the determination in the step (f) establishes that the second user entity inherits the privilege state data from the first user entity, storing the privilege state data input in the step (b) in correspondence with the user data for the second entity and the object data and privilege data for which the privilege state data was input in the step (b).

B ~~23~~⁴ (amended): A method as claimed in claim ~~18~~¹⁷ wherein the user data identifies dependencies between first and second object data related by predetermined dependency data, the method further characterized by the steps of:

f) determining whether the second object data inherits privilege state data from the from the first object data, based on the predetermined dependency data; and

g) if the determination in the step (f) establishes that the second object data inherits privilege state data from the first object data, storing the privilege state data input in the step (b) in correspondence with the user data for the second entity and the object data and privilege data for which the privilege state data was input in the step (b).

7 ~~24~~¹ (amended): A method as claimed in claim ~~18~~¹⁷ wherein the user data identifies dependencies between first and second privilege data related by predetermined dependency data, the method further characterized by the steps of:

f) determining whether the second privilege data inherits privilege state data from the from the first privilege data, based on the predetermined dependency data; and

g) if the determination in the step (f) establishes that the second privilege data inherits privilege state data from the first privilege data, storing the privilege state data input in the step (b) in correspondence with the user data for the second entity and the object data and privilege data for which the privilege state data was input in the step (b).

25 (withdrawn): A network system characterized by:

at least one terminal device having a user interface generating a display of privilege state symbols in an array of cells in a three-dimensional view, the cells displayed in correspondence with privilege labels, object labels, and user labels arranged along respective transverse axes of the three-dimensional view;

a data storage unit coupled to the terminal device, the data storage unit storing corresponding privilege data, object data, user data, and privilege state data, the privilege labels generated based on privilege data, the object labels generated based on respective object data, the user labels generated based on respective user labels, and the privilege state symbols generated based on the privilege state symbols; and

at least one server coupled to the terminal device and the data storage unit, the server transmitting privilege data, object data, user data, and privilege state data between the terminal device and the data storage unit.

26 (withdrawn): A network system as claimed in claim 25 wherein the display is generated on the user interface by an application program running on the terminal device, the application program including an application program interface to convert privilege state data, privilege data, object data, user data, into privilege state symbols, privilege labels, object labels, and user labels, respectively, for the three-dimensional view for the display on the user interface of the terminal device.

27 (withdrawn): An article of manufacture for use with a terminal device, the article characterized by a storage medium having an application program for generating a display of privilege state in a three-dimensional view on a terminal device.